

REMARKS

This Amendment and Response is responsive to an Office Action mailed by the Office on March 27, 2003. Claims 19-76 are pending in the application. Claims 19-45 and 62-76 have been allowed. Claims 46, 47, 49-55 and 57-60 stand rejected. Claims 48, 56 and 61 stand objected to.

Claims 46, 47, 49-55 and 57-60 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,278,920 to Ruoff, Jr. (hereinafter "Ruoff"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of the claims.

Applicant has amended claims 48, 56, and 61. Applicant submits that no new matter is added through the forgoing amendments. Support for the amendments can be found in the specification and claims of the application as filed.

Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested in view of the forgoing amendments and the following remarks.

I. Claims 46, 47, 49-55 and 57-60

Claims 46, 47, 49-55 and 57-60 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Ruoff.

To reject a claim as anticipated under 102(b), the reference must teach every aspect of the claimed invention either explicitly or impliedly. Any feature not directly taught must be inherently present. See, MPEP 706.02(b). The rejection is traversed because the cited reference neither teaches nor suggests every aspect of the claimed invention.

Ruoff discloses a method and apparatus for generating a control program for a position system by manually exerting forces on the positional member to direct it along the desired path, employing force feedback to modify the drive control signals to achieve desired motion and recording the resultant position or motion rate transducer signals.¹ Ruoff, however, failed to teach or suggest a force feedback effect that "comprises a *force feedback effect type* and magnitude," as recited in claim 46 or 54. For at least these reasons, independent claims 46 and 54 are allowable. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections be withdrawn. Based on

¹ Ruoff, Col. 2: 32-38.

their dependence upon independent claims 46 and 54, dependent claims 47, 49-55 and 57-60 are also allowable.

II Claims 48, 56 and 61

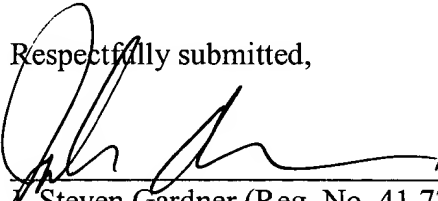
The Examiner objected to claims 48, 56 and 61 for being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated that claims 48, 56 and 61 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim. Applicant has done such in the forgoing amendments with respect to claims 48, 56, and 61. Thus, claims 48, 56, and 61 are allowable.

Conclusion

All rejections and objections have been addressed. Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims 19-76 are allowable. Applicant respectfully solicits the issuance of a Notice of Allowance for all claims.

Should the Examiner have any comments, questions or suggestions of a nature necessary to expedite the prosecution of the application, he is courteously requested to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below.

Date: 6/25/03

Respectfully submitted,

J. Steven Gardner (Reg. No. 41,772)
John C. Alemanni (Reg. No. 47,384)
Attorneys for Applicant

KILPATRICK STOCKTON LLP
1001 West Fourth Street
Winston-Salem, NC 27101
(336) 607-7311 (voice)
(336) 734-2621 (fax)